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PATENT APPLICATION

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR NEW APPLICATION

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a(n) ☒ Original patent application.
☒ Utility ☐ Design ☐ Continuation-in-part application

INVENTOR(S): Stephen W. Farnsworth, Werner Spaeth, and Kirk Cook

TITLE: LENSLESS OPTICAL SERVO SYSTEM FOR AN OPTICALLY ASSISTED DISK
DRIVE

Enclosed are:

- ☒ 27 pages of specification.
- ☒ 4 sheets of drawings ☐ formal drawings ☒ informal drawings (one set)
- ☒ The Declaration and Power of Attorney ☒ signed ☐ unsigned
- ☒ An Assignment Transmittal and Assignment of the invention to: INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES NORTH AMERICA CORP.
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, 1449 and one (1) reference.
- ☒ Filing fee has been calculated as shown below (other than small entity):

For	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	Additional Fees
Total Claims	31 - 20	= 11	x \$ 18	\$198.00
Indep. Claims	3 - 3	= 0	x \$ 78	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of a Multiple Dependent Claim			x \$260	\$ 0
			Basic filing Fee	\$690.00
			Total	\$880.00

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-2179 in the amount of \$880.00. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2179 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

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LENSLESS OPTICAL SERVO SYSTEM
FOR AN OPTICALLY ASSISTED DISK DRIVE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10

1. Field of the Invention

The invention broadly relates to optical servo systems. More particularly, the invention relates to the optical detection system used in an optically assisted disk drive to detect marks on a magnetic disk and thereby precisely locate the magnetic read/write head relative to tracks on the magneto-optical disk.

2. Brief Description Of The Prior Art

Since the introduction of the personal computer in the 1970s and the development of the floppy disk, the need for greater and greater amounts of storage space has continued unabated. The original floppy disk could store less than 100 kilobytes and the most commonly used (3.5 inch) floppy disk today, introduced in the late 1980s can store 1.4 megabytes. Although fixed (hard) disks now store many gigabytes, there remains a need for removable storage media with high capacity.

High capacity removable storage media became popular in the 1980s with the advent of desktop publishing (DTP). Relatively large, clumsy, and undependable

5 "cartridges" from Syquest, Iomega, and other companies were used to transport large DTP files that could not fit on a floppy disk, to a printing plant. High capacity storage media is still in demand today for transporting large files when a broadband connection is not available and for

10 transporting confidential information without using the public network.

One high capacity removable media system which is growing in popularity is the "a:drive" from OR Technology

15 Inc. of Campbell, Calif. While its outward appearance is almost indistinguishable from that of a 3.5 inch, 1.44 megabyte floppy disk drive, the "a:drive" provides 120 megabytes of storage on ultra high density disks, known as "LS-120" or "Superdisk" media. At the same time, the

20 "a:drive" product is compatible with current and legacy 3.5 inch technology and can read and write to both 720 kilobyte and 1.44 megabyte disks. As its name implies, the "a:drive" can serve as a bootable drive in any system in which it is installed.

FIG. 2 shows in more detail how a split beam arrangement is used to detect either the reflection profile for a linear encoder when reading/writing 3.5 disks or the markings on the surface of an LS-120 disk when reading/writing it. The sensor system carried on the arm 22 includes, in addition to the light detector 30, a laser source 32, a hologram 34, a lens array 36 and a rooftop mirror 38. Light from the laser source 32 is diffracted by the hologram 34 and focused by the lens array 36. The rooftop mirror directs the light and reflections to either the linear encoder 24 or the surface of an LS-120 disk 40.

It can be appreciated from prior art FIG. 2 that the sensor system requires multiple passive optical elements, all of which must be aligned during the assembly process. The alignment requires expensive tooling. Each passive element occupies a finite space and additional space must be provided for the alignment tooling. The sizes of the elements also require a large mechanical supporting structure.

In addition, it will be appreciated by those skilled in servo system shown in prior art FIG. 2 is relatively large and with a "full height" drive bay to be accommodated.

Additionally those skilled in the art will recognize th
servo system for an LS-120 type disk drive requires a quadrature
between the adjacent sensors; that the detection of the sensors m
synchronous; and that the first stage of the pre-amplifier
5 used in a typical optical servo system would be more
effective by amplifying the tangential and radial tracking
signals only and not the DC component, thereby allowing for
a larger gain and more signal amplitude.

10 Co-owned co-pending application Serial Number
09/---,---discloses one solution to the problems of the
prior art devices. In both the prior art and the co-owned
co-pending application, light from a laser source is focused
by passive optical elements to form three highly focused
15 points of light at the plane of the disk. Other passive
optical elements gather reflected light from these three
points and focus the reflected light onto three separate
detectors. The detectors produce track sensing signals that
include a low noise pair of sinusoidal signals in exact
20 quadrature indicating the track radial position.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the invention to provide an improved positioning device (referred to
5 hereinafter generically as optical servo systems) that can be used for metrology, optical data storage, or data storage systems that use optical features on the media for tracking purposes.

10 It is also an object of the invention to provide optical servo systems for data storage devices that do not require alignment of elements during assembly of the data storage devices.

15 It is another object of the invention to provide an optical servo system for a data storage device that reduces the overall cost of the data storage device.

It is still another object of the invention to
20 provide an optical servo system for a data storage device that is smaller in size than conventional optical pickup systems.

It is also an object of the invention to provide
25 an optical servo system that provides built-in quadrature phase shift.

It is another object of the invention to provide an optical servo system in which the source and detector(s) are fabricated on a single substrate.

5 It is still another object of the invention to provide an optical servo system in which each of the optical detectors and apertures are small enough and close enough to provide a synchronous detection.

10 It is also an object of the invention to provide an optical servo system that requires fewer components in the first stage of a signal preamplifier.

15 It is another object of the invention to provide an optical servo system that operates without lenses.

20 It is still another object of the invention to provide an optical servo system that has a high signal to noise ratio.

25 In accord with these objects, which will be discussed in detail below, the present invention provides a lensless optical servo system having an unfocused light source and patterned photodetectors. The unfocused light is reflected by the markings on an LS-120 disk and the reflected light carries the pattern of the markings the considerable distance in its far-field to the

photodetectors. The convolution of this light pattern and a mating geometric pattern on the photodetectors causes the photodetectors to generate signals representing the position of the track on the disk.

5

According to a presently preferred embodiment of the invention, set forth herein to illustrate the principals of the invention, a laser diode and three detectors are formed on the same silicon substrate. Further, according to this illustrative preferred embodiment, sinusoidal metalization (a form of aperture) is applied to the detectors in the radial direction (radial relative to the LS-120 disk); the period of the sinusoidal metalization is approximately two times the tracking pitch of the disk; the metalization on the first detector is offset radially approximately ninety degrees behind the metalization on the second detector; and the metalization on the third detector is offset radially approximately ninety degrees ahead of the metalization on the second detector. Alternatively, in lieu of sinusoidal metalization an absorbing sinusoidal feature may be provided.

Preferably, each detector is provided with two sinusoidal patterns, approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with each other with respect to the tangential direction (tangential relative to the LS-120 disk). The patterns are subtracted to remove the DC

component (noise) of the tracking signal. This allows for a differential detection system to occur before the tangential modulation of the tracking signal is removed. Thus, the first stage of a pre-amplifier is more effective by
5 amplifying the tangential and radial tracking signals only and not the DC component, thereby allowing for a larger gain and more signal amplitude.

The silicon substrate is also provided with a
10 source laser diode that is aligned so the reflection from the disk is substantially centered on the second detector. A fold mirror is also provided to direct light from the source laser diode to the disc in a manner well known by those skilled in the art.

15 The invention features an positioning systems, (such as optical servo systems), which perform optical sensor functions without the need for an imaging optic, utilizing only unfocused laser light and patterned
20 photodetectors.

Advantages of the invention include (1) obviation of separate holographic optical elements required by the prior art (as well as other lens elements) to reduce system
25 cost; (2) a less complex assembly process for the devices contemplated by the invention is achieved by (a) eliminating the need to align and attach any optical elements to the

laser detector module, (b) eliminating the need to steer light onto a detector during the assembly process since all reflected light from the media will have all the tracking information required to operate the system, and (c) since
5 the radial shift required to make the tracking signals in quadrature is built into the aperture, there is no alignment requirement for this parameter; and (3) end users experience a lesser degree of complexity and cost in installing the device contemplated by the invention in their products since
10 there is less material physically present at the top of the detector system which nominally requires delicate handling.

Additional objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon
15 reference to the detailed description taken in conjunction with the provided figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

20 FIG. 1 is a simplified schematic diagram of a prior art LS-120 type disk drive;

FIG. 2 is a simplified schematic diagram of a prior art optical pickup system for an LS-120 type disk
25 drive;

FIG. 3 is a simplified schematic diagram illustrating the principles of the invention;

FIG. 4 is a simplified schematic diagram of a
5 presently preferred embodiment of the invention; and

FIG. 5 is an enlarged detail of a portion of
FIG. 4.

10

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Turning now to FIG. 3, a lensless optical servo system 100 has an unfocused, unmasked, undiffracted light source 102 and three patterned photodetectors 104, 106, 108.
15 The unfocused, unmasked, undiffracted light is reflected by the markings on an LS-120 disk 40 and the reflected light carries the pattern of the markings the considerable distance in its far-field to the photodetectors 104, 106, 108. The convolution of this light pattern and a mating
20 geometric pattern 110, 112, 114 on the photodetectors causes the photodetectors to generate signals representing the position of the track on the disk.

More particularly, the pattern on each
25 photodetector filters the reflected light so that only the radial and tangential tracking information is seen by the detectors. Preferably, the source 102 is aligned so that

the reflected light is substantially uniformly distributed about the center detector 106.

Turning now to FIGS. 4 and 5, according to a presently preferred embodiment, a laser diode 102 and three detectors 104, 106, 108 are formed on the same silicon substrate 101. The laser diode 102 is angled toward the detectors by an angle α and a fold mirror 103 mounted adjacent to the output of the laser diode 102 deflects the beam from the diode toward an LS-120 disk (not shown). As seen best in FIG. 5, sinusoidal metalization 110, 112, 114 is applied to the detectors 104, 106, 108 in the radial direction (radial relative to the LS-120 disk).

The period of the sinusoidal metalizations is, according to a preferred embodiment of the invention, approximately two times the tracking pitch of the disk. The sinusoidal metalization 110 on the first detector 104 is offset radially approximately ninety degrees behind the sinusoidal metalization 112 on the second detector 106; and the sinusoidal metalization 114 on the third detector 108 is offset radially approximately ninety degrees ahead of the sinusoidal metalization 112 on the second detector 106.

Preferably, each detector 104, 106, 108 is provided with two sinusoidal patterns 110a, 110b, 112a, 112b, 114a, 114b. Pattern 110a is approximately one hundred eighty

degrees out of phase with, and spaced apart in the tangential direction (tangential relative to the LS-120 disk) from pattern 110b. Similarly, pattern 112a is approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with, and spaced apart in the tangential direction from pattern 112b; and pattern 114a is approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with, and spaced apart in the tangential direction from pattern 114b. The patterns are preferably applied lithographically.

10

The signals filtered by the patterns are subtracted to remove the DC component of the tracking signal. This allows for a differential detection system to occur before the tangential modulation of the tracking signal is removed. Thus, the first stage of a pre-amplifier is more effective by amplifying the tangential and radial tracking signals only and not the DC component, thereby allowing for a larger gain and more signal to noise ratio.

20

The lensless optical servo system of the invention is smaller and less expensive than the prior art systems, yet it meets or exceeds the servo signal requirements of an LS-120 disk drive. The lensless optical servo system of the invention does not require the costly alignment step optical systems require when assembling an LS-120 disk drive.

There have been described and illustrated herein
embodiments of a lensless optical servo system. While
particular embodiments of the invention have been described,
it is not intended that the invention be limited thereto, as
5 it is intended that the invention be as broad in scope as
the art will allow and that the specification be read
likewise.

Thus, while a particular number of detectors have
10 been disclosed, it will be appreciated that other numbers
(at least two) could be utilized. Further, while the
invention is described in the context of a preferred
embodiment where the phase shift from detector to detector
is approximately ninety degrees, this is not intended to be
15 a characteristic that limits the scope of the invention.
For example, those skilled in the art will appreciate that
an approximately (plus or minus) one hundred twenty degree
phase shift between detectors would be suitable for
practicing the invention. In this scenario, if three
20 detectors were used, the one hundred twenty degree patterns
used on the first and third detectors would be offset from
each other by one hundred twenty degrees.

It should also be recognized that although the
25 invention has been described with reference to and for use
with an LS-120 disk drive, it may be used in other types of
optical and magnetic drives. Moreover, it may be used in

What is claimed is:

1. A lensless optical servo system (100) comprising:

5 (a) an unfocused, undiffracted light source (102); and

(b) a plurality of photodetectors (104, 106, 108),
each photodetector being covered by a geometric
pattern filter (110, 112, 114).

10

2. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 1 wherein said geometric pattern filter (110, 112,
114) is a sinusoidal pattern filter.

15

3. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 1 wherein said geometric pattern filter (110, 112,
114) is a metalized sinusoidal pattern filter.

20

4. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 1 wherein said geometric pattern filter (110, 112,
114) is an absorbing sinusoidal pattern filter.

25

5. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 2 wherein said plurality of photodetectors (104, 106,
108) includes a first photodetector (104) and a second
photodetector (106), said first photodetector (104) is
5 covered by a first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) and said
second photodetector (106) is covered by a second a
sinusoidal pattern filter (112), and said first sinusoidal
pattern filter (110) and said second sinusoidal pattern
filter (112) are offset from each other by approximately
10 ninety degrees.

6. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 2 wherein said plurality of photodetectors (104, 106,
15 108) includes a first photodetector (104) and a second
photodetector (106), said first photodetector (104) is
covered by a first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) and said
second photodetector (106) is covered by a second a
sinusoidal pattern filter (112), and said first sinusoidal
20 pattern filter (110) and said second sinusoidal pattern
filter (112) are offset from each other by approximately one
hundred twenty degrees.

7. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 5 wherein said first sinusoidal pattern filter (110)
has a first part (110a) and a second part (110b), said first
part (110a) of said first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) is
5 spaced apart from and approximately one hundred eighty
degrees out of phase with said second part (110b) of said
first sinusoidal pattern filter (110), said second
sinusoidal pattern filter (112) has a first part (112a) and
a second part (112b), and said first part (112a) of said
10 second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) is spaced apart from
and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase
with said second part (112b) of said second sinusoidal
pattern filter (112).

15 8. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 5 wherein said plurality of photodetectors (104, 106,
108) includes third photodetector (108), said third
photodetector (108) is covered by a third sinusoidal pattern
filter (114), and said third sinusoidal pattern filter (114)
20 and said second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) are offset
from each other by approximately ninety degrees.

9. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
25 claim 8 wherein said first sinusoidal pattern filter (110)
and said third sinusoidal pattern filter (114) are offset
from each other by approximately one hundred eighty degrees.

10. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 8 wherein said first sinusoidal pattern filter (110)
5 has a first part (110a) and a second part (110b),
said first part (110a) of said first sinusoidal pattern
filter (110) is spaced apart from and approximately one
hundred eighty degrees out of phase with said second part
(110b) of said first sinusoidal pattern filter (110), said
10 second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) has a first part
(112a) and a second part (112b), said first part (112a) of
said second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) is spaced apart
from and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of
phase with said second part (112b) of said second sinusoidal
15 pattern filter (112), said third sinusoidal pattern filter
(114) has a first part (114a) and a second part (114b),
said first part (114a) of said third sinusoidal pattern
filter (112) is spaced apart from and approximately one
hundred eighty degrees out of phase with said second part
20 (112b) of said third sinusoidal pattern filter (112).

11. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 10 wherein said first sinusoidal pattern filter (110)
25 and said third sinusoidal pattern filter (114) are offset
from each other by approximately one hundred eighty degrees.

12. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 11 wherein said light source (102), said
photodetectors (104, 106, 108), and said pattern filters
5 (110, 112, 114) are all formed on a single common substrate.

13. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 12 further comprising means for deflecting light (103)
10 from said laser source (102) to a disc (40).

14. A lensless optical servo system (100) according to
claim 13 wherein said light source is a laser diode.
15

15. A method of making a lensless optical servo system
(100) comprising the steps of:

20 (a) forming an unfocused, undiffracted light source
(102) on a substrate (101);

(b) forming a plurality of photodetectors (104, 106,
108) on the substrate (101); and

25

(c) covering each photodetector with a geometric
pattern filter (110, 112, 114).

16. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100) according to claim 15 wherein said step of covering
5 each photodetector with a geometric pattern filter (110, 112, 114) includes covering each photodetector with a sinusoidal pattern filter.

10 17. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100) according to claim 16 wherein said step of forming a plurality of photodetectors (104, 106, 108) includes forming a first photodetector (104) and forming a second
photodetector (106), said step of covering includes covering
15 the first photodetector (104) with a first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) and covering the second photodetector (106) with a second sinusoidal pattern filter (112), such that the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) and the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) are offset from each
20 other by approximately ninety degrees.

18. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100) according to claim 17 wherein the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) has a first part (110a) and a second part (110b), the first part (110a) of the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) is spaced apart from and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with the second part (110b) of the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110), the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) has a first part (112a) and a second part (112b), and the first part (112a) of the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) is spaced apart from and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with the second part (112b) of the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112).

19. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100) according to claim 17 wherein said step of forming a plurality of photodetectors (104, 106, 108) includes forming a third photodetector (108), said step of covering includes covering the third photodetector (108) with a third sinusoidal pattern filter (114), such that the third sinusoidal pattern filter (114) and the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) are offset from each other by approximately ninety degrees.

20. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100) according to claim 19, wherein the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) and the third sinusoidal pattern filter (114) are offset from each other by approximately one hundred eighty degrees.

21. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100) according to claim 19 wherein the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) has a first part (110a) and a second part (110b), the first part (110a) of the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110) is spaced apart from and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with the second part (110b) of the first sinusoidal pattern filter (110), the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) has a first part (112a) and a second part (112b), the first part (112a) of the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112) is spaced apart from and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with the second part (112b) of the second sinusoidal pattern filter (112), the third sinusoidal pattern filter (114) has a first part (114a) and a second part (114b), and the first part (114a) of the third sinusoidal pattern filter (114) is spaced apart from and approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with the second part (114b) of the third sinusoidal pattern filter (114).

22. A method of making a lensless optical servo system
(100) according to claim 21 wherein the first sinusoidal
pattern filter (110) and the third sinusoidal pattern filter
(114) are offset from each other by approximately one
5 hundred eighty degrees.

23. A method of making a lensless optical servo system (100)
according to claim 22 further comprising the step of
10 rotating said light source (102) to aim the illumination at
said second detector (106).

24. A method of making a lensless optical servo system
15 (100) according to claim 22 wherein said step of forming an
unfocused, undiffracted light source (102) includes forming
a laser diode on the substrate (101).

20 25. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium
having tracking markings thereon, said method comprising the
steps of:

(a) aiming an unfocused, undiffracted light at the
25 tracking markings; and

(b) detecting light reflected by the data medium

through a filter which filters all but the light reflected by the markings.

5 26. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium having tracking markings thereon according to claim 25 wherein said step of detecting includes detecting light through a sinusoidal filter.

10

27. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium having tracking markings thereon according to claim 26 wherein said step of detecting includes detecting light with two detectors, each detector having a sinusoidal filter, and
15 each filter being offset approximately ninety degrees from the other.

28. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium
20 having tracking markings thereon, according to claim 27 wherein each sinusoidal filter has two parts approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with each other.

29. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium having tracking markings thereon according to claim 26 wherein said step of detecting includes detecting light with first, second and third detectors, each detector has a sinusoidal filter, the first filter is offset approximately ninety degrees from the second filter, and the third filter is offset approximately ninety degrees from the second filter.

10

30. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium having tracking markings thereon according to claim 29 wherein each sinusoidal filter has two parts approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with each other.

15

31. A method of tracking tracks on a rotating data medium having tracking markings thereon according to claim 30 wherein the third filter is offset approximately one hundred eighty degrees from the first filter.

20

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A lensless optical servo system (100) has an unfocused light source (102) and patterned photodetectors (104, 106, 108). The unfocused light is reflected by the markings on an LS-120 disk (40) and the reflected light carries the pattern of the markings the considerable distance in its far-field to the photodetectors (104, 106, 108). The convolution of this light pattern and a mating geometric pattern (110, 112, 114) on the photodetectors (104, 106, 108) causes the photodetectors to generate signals representing the position of the track on the disk. According to a presently preferred embodiment, a laser diode (102) and three detectors (104, 106, 108) are formed on the same silicon substrate (101). Sinusoidal metalization (110, 112, 114) is applied to the detectors (104, 106, 108) in the radial direction. The period of the sinusoidal metalization is two times the tracking pitch of the disk radially and tangentially. The metalization on the first detector is approximately ninety degrees behind the metalization on the second detector and the metalization on the third detector is approximately ninety degrees ahead of the metalization on the second detector. Preferably, each detector (104, 106, 108) is provided with two sinusoidal patterns (110a, 110b, 112a, 112b, 114a, 114b), approximately one hundred eighty degrees out of phase with each other, and spaced apart in the tangential direction.

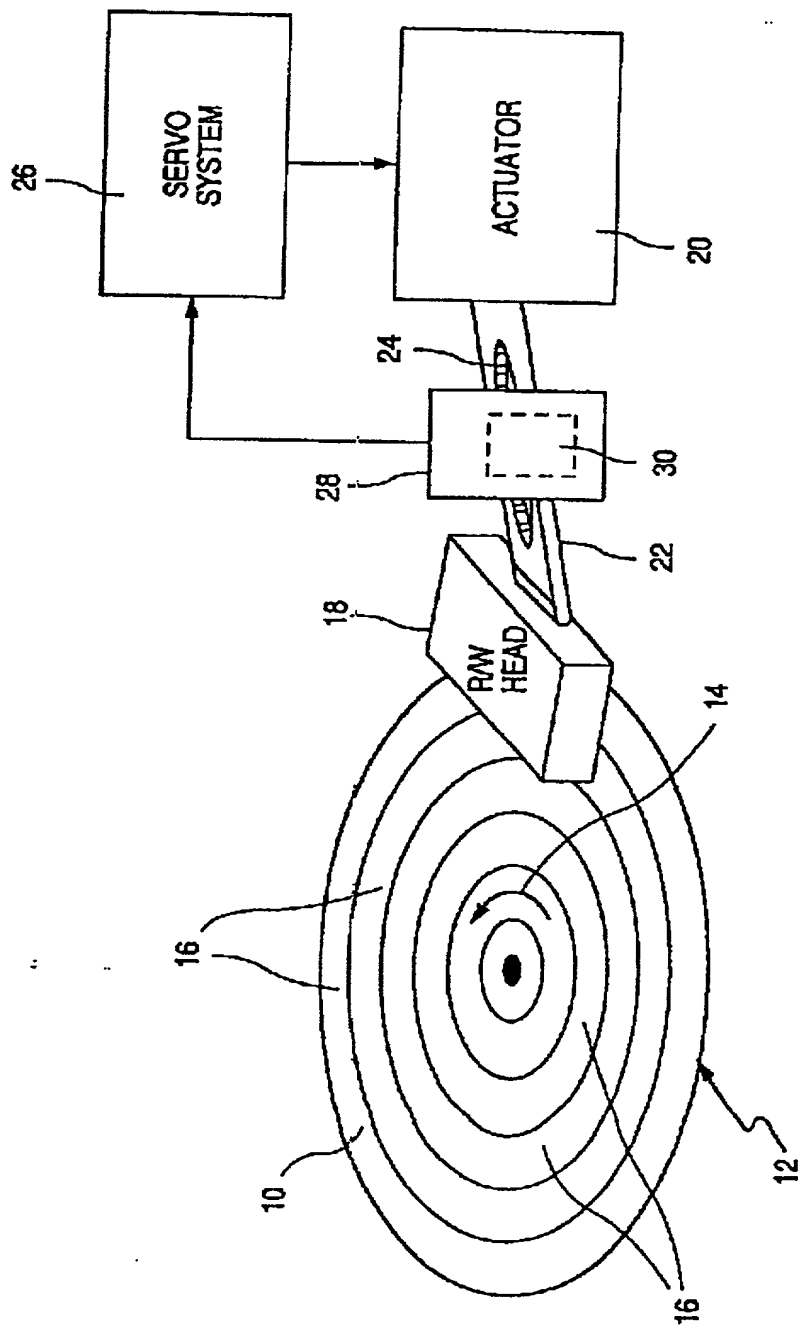
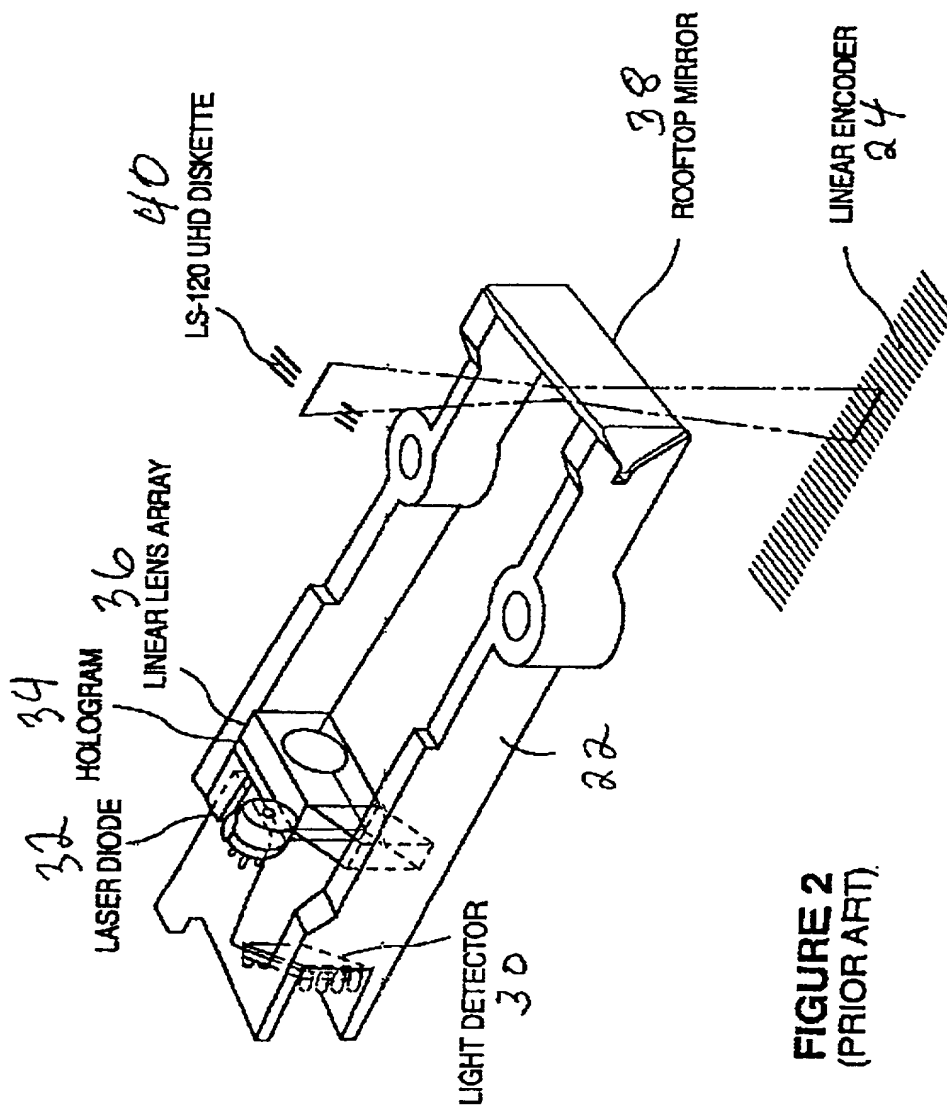


FIGURE 1
PRIOR ART



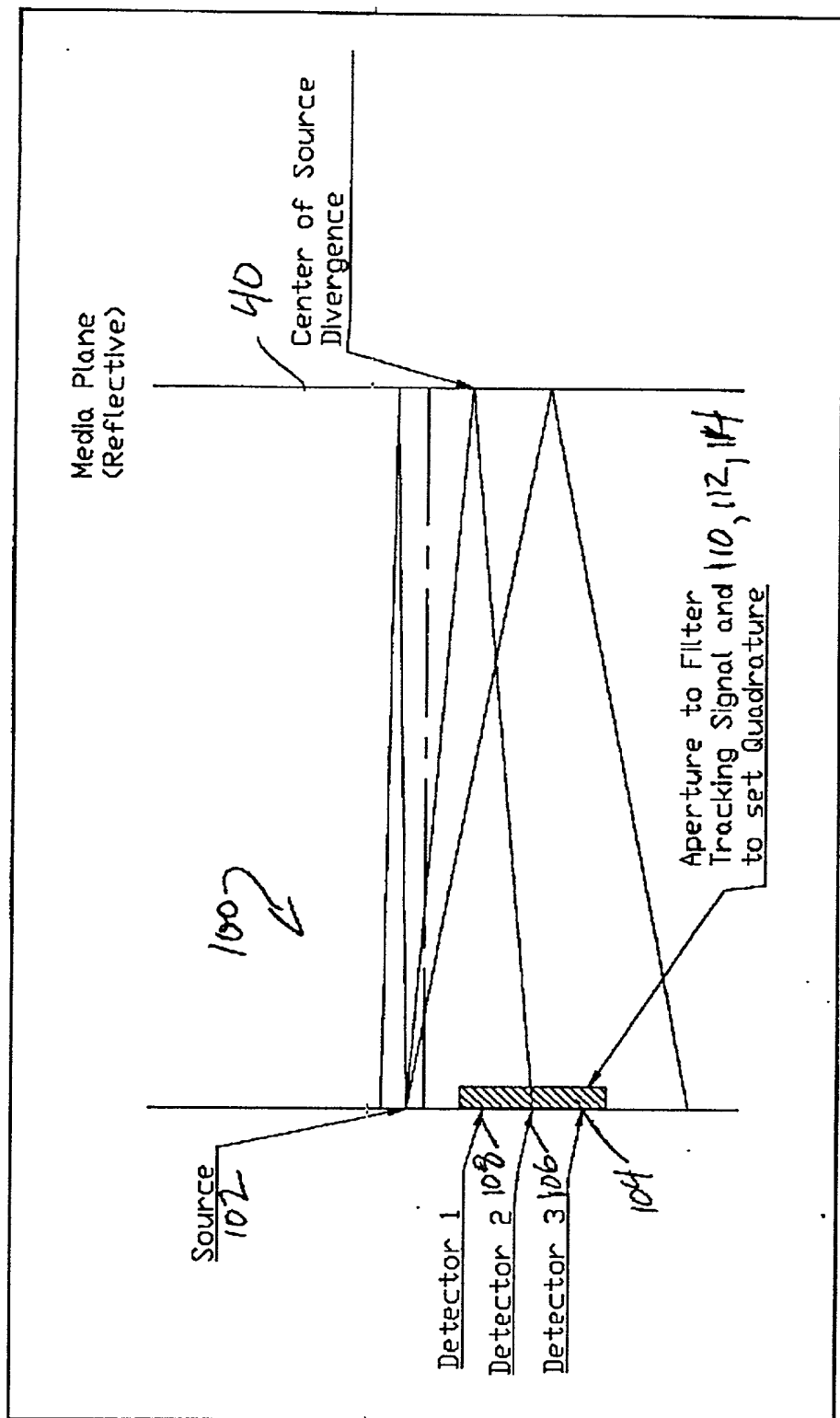
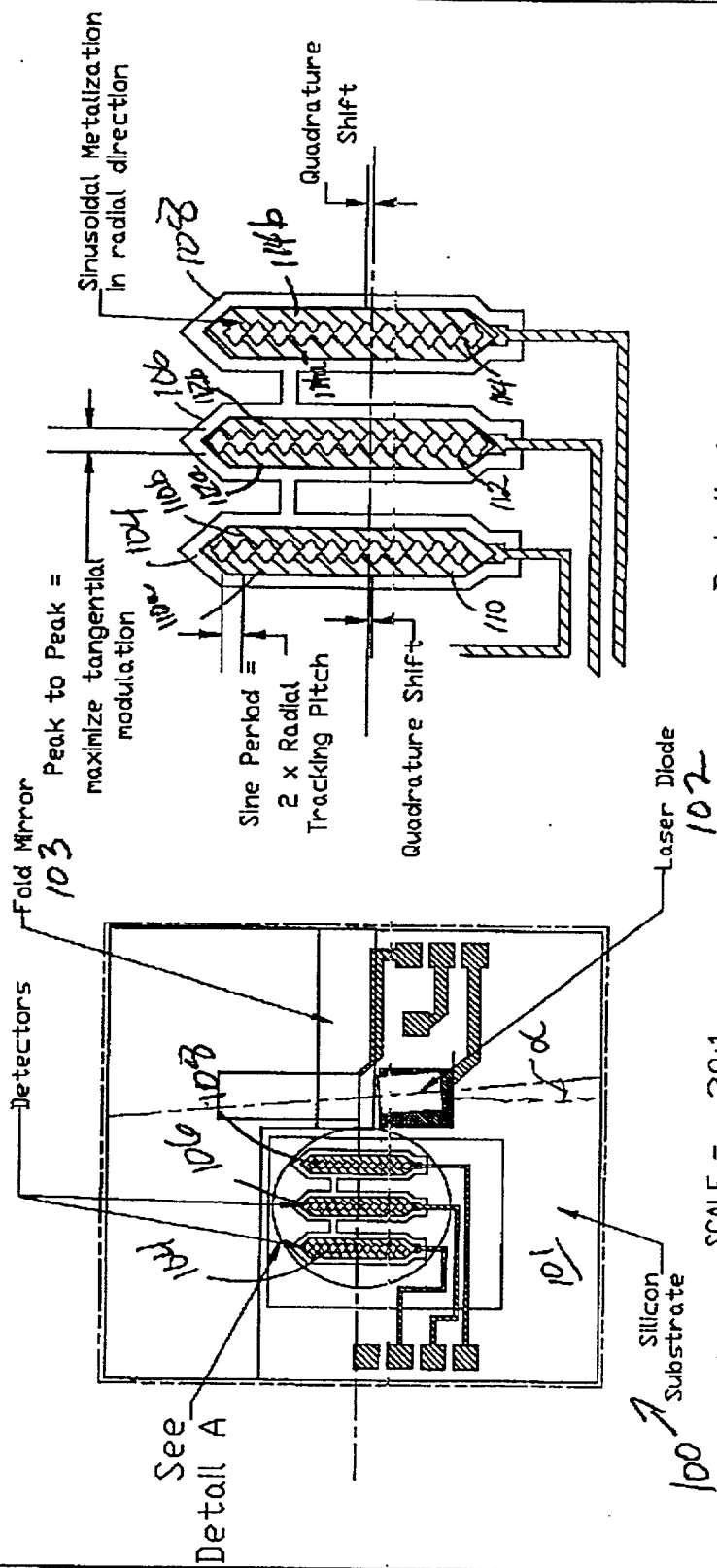


Fig. 3



SCALE = 20:1

Fig. 4

Detail A
SCALE = 50:1

Fig. 5

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION & POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**LENSLESS OPTICAL SERVO SYSTEM
FOR AN OPTICALLY ASSISTED DISK DRIVE**

the specification of which (check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____ as Application Serial No.
and was amended on _____ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Codes, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Priority claimed

(Number)	(Country)	(Day/month/year filed)	Yes	No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/month/year filed)	Yes	No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/month/year filed)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any

I hereby claim the benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing date)	(Status)
		(patented,pending,abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing date)	(Status)
		(patented,pending,abandoned)

Power of Attorney: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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thereon.

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